



State of Wisconsin
Department of Financial Institutions

Jim Doyle, Governor

Lorrie Keating Heinemann, Secretary

Ray Allen, Deputy Administrator, Division of Corporate and Consumer Services
Department of Financial Institutions

Assembly Committee on Financial Institutions
March 24th, 2010

My name is Ray Allen and I am the Deputy Administrator of the Division of Corporate and Consumer Services in the Department of Financial Institutions.
I am speaking before you on behalf of the Department of Financial Institutions in support of Assembly Bill 819.

The Department does not require the listing of social security numbers on any of our documents; however some still add this information. The DFI currently is the depository of over four million records many containing personally identifying information, such as Social Security Numbers; Personal Bank account numbers, or other information which could possibly be used in the commission of identity theft.

As you are aware, these records are subject to Wisconsin's open records law and can be obtained by anyone so requesting. Assembly Bill 819 allows the department to continue our commitment to open government while allowing for a proactive and reasonable approach to maintaining individual privacy.

Several states currently have similar laws in effect to allow filing offices to reject filings which contain personally identifying information. In addition, the bill would grant the department the ability to redact personally identifying information from currently filed documents requested by the public thereby adding additional personal protections.

Again thank you for allowing me to testify and I ask for your support of this important personal privacy legislation.

Division of Corporate & Consumer Services

Mail: PO Box 7846 Madison WI 53707-7846

Courier: 345 W. Washington Ave. 3rd Floor Madison, WI 53703

Voice: (608) 261-7577

Fax: (608) 267-6813

TTY: (608) 266-8818

Internet: www.wdfi.org